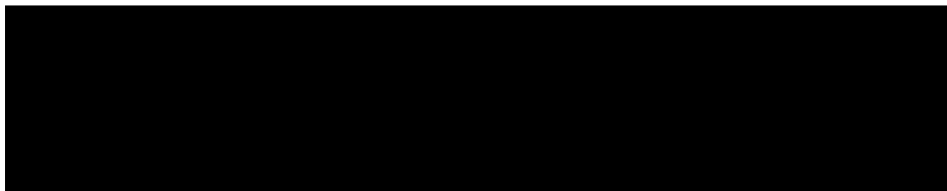
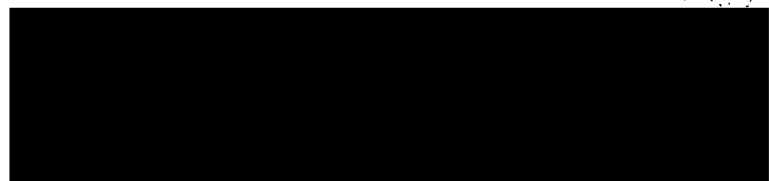


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(b)(1)  
(b)(3)



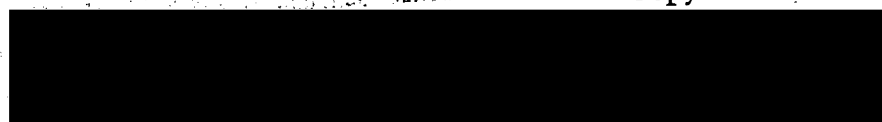
# WEEKLY REVIEW



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8 June 1973

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#### THE END OF LUNOKHOD-2

The most recent Soviet moon-rover, Lunokhod-2, has ceased operating after some four months of activity. The manned vehicle was placed in the Sea of Serenity in January by Luna 21 and subsequently traveled more than 20 nautical miles. This distance was about three times greater than that covered by the first Lunokhod, which operated for more than ten months from November 1970.

A TASS announcement on Lunokhod-2 earlier this week provided no explanation of the vehicle's relatively short life span. It may be that the vehicle experienced a mechanical failure or suffered some accident. A loss of the heat source ended the operation of the first Lunokhod, but this does not appear to have been the case with Lunokhod-2. The Soviets had hinted earlier that one goal of Lunokhod-2 was to reach the Taurus Mountains near the LeMonnier crater—a goal apparently not achieved.

During its lifetime, the moon-rover performed various scientific experiments and transmitted pictures of the lunar landscape. The vehicle incorporated several improvements over its predecessor, including better steering and new television cameras positioned to give ground controllers a better view of the terrain. Changes also were made in the procedures for command, the processing of information, and the sequencing of the vehicle's movements. These improvements aided the controllers in reacting more rapidly and in overcoming several obstacles encountered during the vehicle's journeys. [REDACTED]

~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]